

April 18, 1970

Dear Harold:

I got a letter postmarked the 12th from you yesterday, and one postmarked the 16th today. Pretty inconsistent mail service.

Your letter to John Nichols of 4/12 was excellent. Your letter to Fortas was an interesting## idea, although I think that it would have been better to have been a bit more direct. The prospects with the baddie sound like they are getting better. I would feel more confident if I didn't think that he and his brother were so unstable and unpredictable.

From your 4/15 to Dick, it sounds like John Nichols behavior becomes more bizarre by the day.

Your comment in your letter to Russ that "spilt milk is for cats" is clever. I think I'll add that to my repertoire of phrases for trying to talk patients out of being concerned about water under the bridge and the past in general.

Moo sounds like he has grown as some have claimed. It's never too late to get to work on that enormous investigative potential in the N.O. end of the case. Right now his motives may be a bit purer also.

I don't have anything of great insight to add to the discussion of Quiroga between you and Paul. Both of you know more about this area than I do and besides seem to have explored quite a few possibilities. I think that the most important thing we can do in such cases is to keep open minds. When we wander through the WR, volumes, and archives, we are wandering through a large assortment of sense and nonsense, food and garbage. Some has been sorted and processed with people like us in mind, some contains the truth inadvertently, perhaps because the author had no vested interest, and some is straightforward. Our ability to process this mass of stuff and understand it is quite limited in many areas. We are dealing with an exposure of a large # of records which were never meant for public exposure and with federal agencies and individuals who cannot stand on their records and know it. Then there are some who think they can stand on their records and shouldn't be so deluded. But basically, I guess I feel that everyone was covering up their own little sins and that much of what has been learned of govt. agencies and certain people may relate more to those agencies or other things than to the assassination. So, we are always in danger of making our own red herrings but also in equal danger of failing to see something important because of the great mass of nonsense. As long as we keep the balance even, and work hard on any and all clues, and yet keep an open mind, we will hopefully one day be able to see the forest for the trees.

The powers book is out, and the serialization of it (Operation Overflight, by Gary Powers and Curt Gentry) Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc.) by the Mpls Tribune begins with good old Lee Harvey Oswald and the hypothesis that it was his knowledge that brought the U-2 down. He persists, like Garrison, in calling Document 931 by the wrong title, ignoring the important modifier "classified" in the document title. By the way, what ever came of Paul's contact with him.

There are some other things I would like to write, but between the last paragraph and this one was an hour and a half call from a patient who just had an emotional trauma and has been feeling suicidal. Then Ted Hammond, one of my more promising people, who is now doing public speaking, called for some help in preparing a presentation and filled me in on an interrogation of him by an "ex-CIA" man who was present at one of his talks. I will followup by checking the guy out--his ex-CIA status comes from a friend, but from the sound of the interrogation (I use the word advisedly) he may not be "ex." Well, I'd better close. Best wishes to you and Lil.

cc:Paul

*Gary*